

# VISUAL STORY

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For the relaxed performance of *The Sound of Music*

Music by Richard Rodgers, Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II  
Book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse  
Suggested by "The Trapp Family Singers" by Maria Augusta Trapp

Sunday, November 27, 2022, at 7PM  
Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage



ARTSCLUB.COM 604.687.1644

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## What is a relaxed performance?

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Relaxed performances are designed to welcome people who benefit from a more casual audience environment, including (but not limited to) people with sensory processing conditions, autism, a learning or intellectual disability, or parents with infants. There is a more casual approach to noise and movement within the theatre space, which can also be a good introductory experience for people attending the theatre for the first time.

## What is a visual story?

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A visual story gives audience members an idea of what the theatre experience will be like.

## What to expect at the theatre

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### How do I get my tickets?

Print-at-home tickets will be emailed to you and **will call** tickets are available at the box office on the day of the performance. You can pick them up on show day as early as 12 PM.

### How long does the play last?

The total time is approximately 2 hours and 40 minutes, including a 20-minute intermission. Since this is a live performance, the play may be longer or shorter than the scheduled time. Remember: it is okay to leave the theatre during the show and take a break.

### Phones and electronic devices

Phones are welcome, but please do not take photos during the performance. You are welcome to bring in other devices, such as iPads or headphones.

### Accessibility

- Limited wheelchair accessible seating is available inside the theatre.
- There is a place to leave wheelchairs and walkers in the **lobby**. You can ask an **usher** or volunteer for assistance.
- Limited assistive-listening devices are available for patron use during the performance.
- Service dogs are always welcome.

- The theatre is a scent-free zone; please arrive without cologne or perfume.
- Please contact the box office with any inquiries or requests for accessibility services.

**Age recommendation**

There is no age minimum for this relaxed performance!

**After the show**

After the play is done, the actors will come back out and take a bow. If you enjoyed the show, you can clap for the actors.

**Audience advisory**

- Flashing lights and thunderstorm sounds.
- The show is a musical and could be visually and audibly stimulating. You may bring your own noise cancelling headphones.

## About the theatre

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Photo of the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage at night. Photo by Moonrider Productions.

*The Sound of Music* is playing at the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage, located at 2750 Granville St., Vancouver, BC. The theatre is located on the traditional, unceded territories of the Squamish, Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. You can see the theatre's location on the map below.



A Google Maps image of the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage location

## How to get to the Stanley Theatre

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### Public transportation

Nearby bus lines are: 99, 9, 10, 17.

Visit [translink.ca](https://translink.ca) for other trip planning options.

For more information on the neighborhood (including shopping, services, and more) visit the [South Granville website](#).

## Parking

We recommend giving yourself extra time to get to the theatre. Underground parking is available throughout the neighborhood. There are parking meters with an extended 4-hour time limit and several secure parking lots. Please note that some lots have restricted hours.

Visit [artsclub.com/visit](https://artsclub.com/visit) for more tips on parking.

## Arriving at the theatre

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### In the lobby

The **lobby** of the theatre will open at 6 PM for the relaxed performance. You can arrive between 6 and 6:45 PM.

If you do not yet have your ticket, you can pick it up at the box office, located to the right of the main entrance doors. Volunteers will be waiting at the front of the theatre to help guide you to the correct line. If you printed your tickets at home or already have a ticket, you can go right through the main doors into the **lobby**.



lobby door

box office windows

Outside the Stanley theatre



The **lobby** is the area where the audience waits before going into the theatre to see the show. If you would like, you can order a drink or a snack from the bar. You are also welcomed to bring your own food into the theatre.



Photo of Stanley lobby

## Washrooms

In addition to women's and men's washrooms, a single stall accessible washroom is located on the right side of the lobby beside the women's washroom.





Photo of Stanley lobby

## Relaxation Station

If you want a break from the show, you can come out to the **relaxation station** in the **lobby**. You are welcome to enter and leave the theatre whenever you want. If you need help, look for Arts Club staff and volunteers wearing yellow buttons that say “Ask Me”.



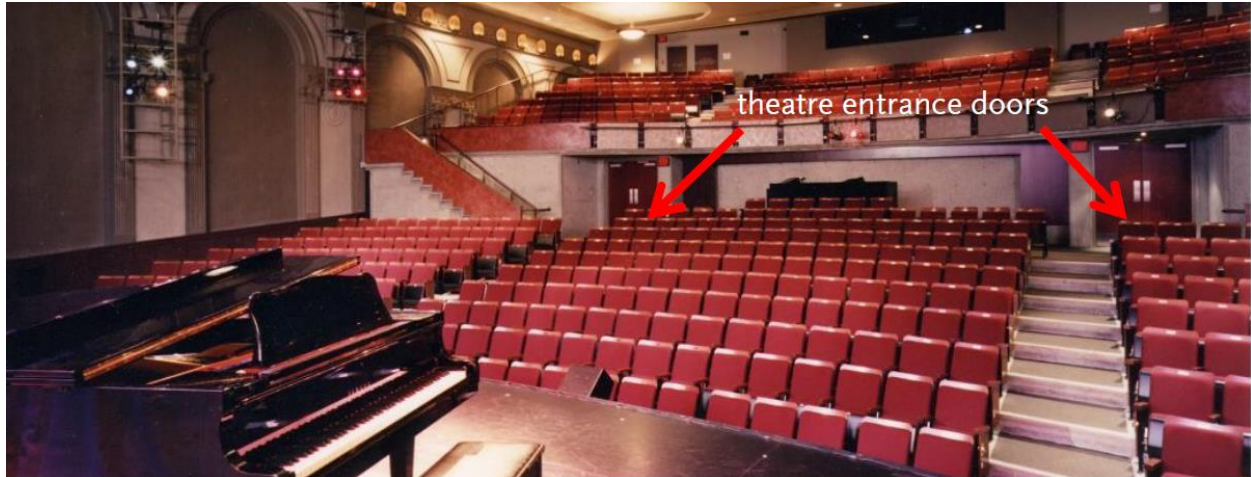
Photo of Stanley lobby

## Inside the theatre

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Guests will be able to enter the theatre starting at 6:30PM.

The **seats** in the theatre are organized by **row** numbers and **seat** numbers, which are both on your ticket. **Ushers** near the doors will help you find your way. If you need to leave the theatre, you can leave and come back to your **seat** at any time.



Inside the Stanley theatre

### **The start of the show**

When the show is about to start, there will be a pre-show announcement from the front of the theatre that introduces the production.

### **Intermission**

The **intermission** is a 20-minute pause halfway through the show. This is a good time to take a break and think about what you have seen so far. Or you may want to get a drink or a snack from the bar. There will be an announcement towards the end of the **intermission** to alert guests in the **lobby** to return to their **seats** for the second act.

### **After the show**

After the play ends, the actors will come back out and take a bow. If you like, you can clap for the actors.

## About the play—*The Sound of Music*

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"Maria" in *The Sound of Music*

### What is the play about?

*The Sound of Music* is one of the most famous musicals of all times, that takes place in Austria in 1938. It tells the story of Maria, a young woman who lives in an abbey and hopes to become a nun, and begins working as a governess for seven children, whose father, Captain von Trapp, is a widowed naval captain. Her arrival to the von Trapp home ignites the children and their father with the love of music. The family ends up escaping Austria, which is under Nazi occupation. The show includes famous songs such as "My Favorite Things", "Do-Re-Mi", and "Climb Ev'ry Mountain".



The writers of the musical are: Richard Rodgers (music), Oscar Hammerstein II (lyrics), Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse (book). It is inspired by “The Trapp Family Singers”, written by Maria Augusta Trapp.

The show has two acts, it runs for 2 hours and 40 minutes and include a 20 minute intermission.



The cast of *The Sound of Music*

### What to expect

- The characters sing many songs throughout the play.
- People in the audience may also choose to sing along to the songs. Feel free to sing as well!

- There is live band playing all the instruments that you will hear. They are not on the stage, but actually in a room behind the balcony area of the Stanley Industrial Alliance Stage!
- Parts of this musical are very funny and there are other parts of the story that may be frightening to some audience members. This play takes place just before World War II in Europe so there will be some Nazi soldiers who threaten the von Trapp family at times. There will also be Nazi symbols displayed on stage.
- The play is based on a true story of the von Trapp family, although many parts of this story are fictional.
- The characters sometimes use German words when talking to one another.

### **Characters in the show**

**Maria Rainer** A novitiate at the Nonnberg Abbey, sent to serve as governess to the von Trapp family. Maria is a free-spirited young woman who loves singing and music, and although sincere in her religious commitment, does not always follow the strict rules of conduct expected of nuns.

**Capt. Georg von Trapp** A decorated Austrian naval officer and father of seven children. Capt. Von Trapp is serious and stern in his demeanor, but is gradually softened by Maria's charm.

**Liesl von Trapp** The oldest of the von Trapp children, age 16.

**Friedrich von Trapp** One of the von Trapp children, age 14.

**Louisa von Trapp** One of the von Trapp children, age 13.

**Kurt von Trapp** One of the von Trapp children, age 10.

**Brigitta von Trapp** One of the von Trapp children, age 9.

**Marta von Trapp** One of the von Trapp children, age 7.

**Gretl von Trapp** The youngest of the von Trapp children, age 5.

**Mother Abbess** The abbess of Nonnberg Abbey; a moderate and well-meaning authority figure who is fond of Maria.

**Max Detweiler** A prominent local music promotor and government officer; a close friend of Capt. von Trapp.

**Baroness Elsa Schröder** A wealthy Viennese businesswoman who intends to marry Capt. von Trapp.

**Rolf Gruber** A telegram delivery boy who is infatuated with Liesl, but becomes increasingly swayed by the Nazis.

**Sister Bertha** A nun at the Nonnberg Abbey.

**Sister Margareta** A nun at the Nonnberg Abbey.

**Sister Sophia** A nun at the Nonnberg Abbey.

**Frau Schmidt** Capt. von Trapp's housekeeper.

**Franz** Captain von Trapp's butler.

**Herr Zeller** The Gauleiter: regional leader of the Nazi party in Austria.





The cast of *The Sound of Music*

## Content Advisory – Includes Spoilers

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- The show includes appearances of Nazi characters, symbols and salutes.
- Towards the end of the show, one of the Nazi soldiers holds a gun while searching for the von Trapp family. However, they do not shoot the gun and the von Trapp family are able to escape.
- Two romantic couples in the show: Captain von Trapp and Maria, and Rolf and Liesl, share a kiss.

## Detailed Synopsis

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### ACT ONE

On the eve of World War II at an abbey in the Austrian Alps, a free-spirited young novitiate (novice in a religious order), Maria, is assigned by her abbess to temporarily serve as governess to the seven children of a decorated naval officer, Captain Georg von Trapp. Maria is reluctant to leave the abbey, but the abbess, who is fond of Maria and shares her love of music, reassures her that this experience will help her to better decide whether she truly wants to commit herself to life as a nun. Upon arriving at the impressive von Trapp villa, Maria meets Capt. von Trapp, a stern and stoic man who blows a whistle to direct his children and domestic servants. Maria is then introduced to the children, ranging from five-year-old Gretl to 16-year-old Liesl. Shortly after these introductions, Maria begins teaching the children how to sing—an activity they very much enjoy. As time passes, the children grow increasingly enamoured of the vivacious Maria—as does Capt. von Trapp, despite his steely façade and initial opposition to them singing and learning music. Meanwhile, Capt. von Trapp courts Elsa Schraeder, a wealthy businesswoman with an aristocratic background. As Capt. von Trapp entertains Elsa and Max Detweiler, a prominent local music promoter, at the villa, the current political situation comes up in the course of their conversation. Elsa and Max seem resigned to complying with the directives of the threatening German National Socialist government, so as not to jeopardize their personal fortunes; but Capt. von Trapp, an Austrian patriot, expresses his strong opposition to the Nazis. Later, he throws a grand party for his guests. The children dance and soak in the romantic atmosphere. They sing charmingly for the attendees, and

Max suggests that they perform at the upcoming musical festival that he is organizing. Maria tries to instruct Kurt, one of the older children, on how to waltz, when Capt. von Trapp steps in to demonstrate the dance. There are palpable romantic feelings between them, as evinced by Maria's blushing. Later, when Maria tells the children that they ought to be kind to Elsa because she may soon be their "new mother," young Brigitta interjects, insisting that Capt. von Trapp and Maria are in love with one another. Embarrassed, Maria denies this and returns to the abbey, ostensibly to pledge her commitment to the religious life. The abbess sees through this, however, bringing Maria to admit that she indeed feels strongly for Capt. von Trapp, and urging her to return to him and his children.

## **ACT TWO**

As the children practice for the musical festival, they complain that they miss Maria and that singing together just isn't the same without her there. They do not understand her sudden absence, and they are decidedly unenthusiastic when Capt. von Trapp informs them of his engagement to Elsa. As they sing, Maria returns, joining their song; she then apologizes to Capt. von Trapp and his children for leaving. Capt. von Trapp and Elsa have a tense disagreement regarding the Nazis and his absolute unwillingness to comply with their orders. At an irresolvable impasse, she leaves for Vienna, breaking off the engagement. When Capt. von Trapp informs Maria of this news, they both confess their feelings, kiss, and plan to marry. Later, after Capt. von Trapp returns from his honeymoon with Maria, he is visited by Nazi officers who order him to report at once to a German naval base. Maria tells them that Capt. von Trapp will be

performing with her and his children in Max's musical festival, coming up in two days. The Nazi officers reluctantly allow Capt. von Trapp to perform, but firmly insist that he report for military service after the festival. This buys the family a bit of time to devise a way out of Nazi-occupied Austria. They perform at the festival, winning first prize in the judged competition, but then sneak out immediately after their performance, sending the Nazis in pursuit of Capt. von Trapp. The family hides at the abbey. The abbey's grounds are searched by a menacing crew of Nazi stormtroopers, but the von Trapps narrowly elude their grasp and leave on foot to walk the short distance into Switzerland.

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## Glossary

**Intermission:** A 20-minute pause halfway through the show

**Lobby:** The entrance area in the front of the theatre where the bar, washrooms, and **relaxation station** are located

**Relaxation station:** An area of the **lobby** where you can sit at any time during the show. You can also watch the play on a TV monitor in this area

**Row:** Row numbers are located on the side of each line of **seats**

**Seat:** Seat numbers are located on the seat, just below the cushion

**Section:** The area of the theatre where your **seat** is located. Your ticket will also tell you if you are on the right, centre, or left side of your section

**Lines:** The words that the actors speak

**Cue:** Something said or done that lets an actor know to begin their speech or performance

**Props:** An object used on stage by actors in a performance

**Set:** An artificial setting for the scene of a play

**Stunt:** An unusual or difficult action used in a show to portray a physically dangerous moment

**Usher:** An Arts Club employee who is there to help you find your **seat** in the theatre and answer your questions

**Will call:** When you choose “will call” for your tickets, that means you can pick them up at the box office window before entering the **lobby**

#### PHOTO CREDITS

Chelsea Rose in *The Sound of Music*, 2022: set & costume design by Drew Facey; lighting design by Itai Erdal; photo by Moonrider Productions

Cast of *The Sound of Music*, 2022: set & costume design by Drew Facey; lighting design by Itai Erdal; photo by Moonrider Productions